

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 have been examined. Claims 2, 4, and 6 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7-10 are pending in the application.

1. Formalities:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority and for confirming that the certified of the priority document has been received.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for initialing the references listed on form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 19, 2000, and the resubmitted substitute form PTO-1449 submitted on March 22, 2002.

2. Claim Rejections:

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 and 7-10 under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moussa et al. (US 6,035,406) ["Moussa"] in view of Dunn et al. (US 5,987,155) ["Dunn"]. For at least the following reasons, Applicant traverses the rejection.

Claim 1, as amended, recites that "an individual authentication system" comprises "an individual authentication card" that "has a function of collating the stored identification number with the identification number transmitted by the identification number input device." The Examiner alleges that the login service 140 of Moussa discloses this feature.

Applicant submits that the login service 140 uses the operating system 150 in order to "collate" the stored identification number and the inputted identification number (col. 4, lines 1-11). Further, the physical token 131 itself in Moussa does not perform the claimed function and

Dunn does not cure this deficiency. Applicant submits that claim 1 is novel and is not obvious. Therefore, claim 1 should be allowable.

Because claims 3 and 7-10 depend on claim 1, Applicant submits that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

The Examiner has rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moussa in view of Dunn and further in view of Pearson et al. (US 5,991,408) ["Pearson"].

For at least the following reason, Applicant traverses the rejection.

Because claim 5 depends on claim 1 and Pearson does not cure the deficiencies of Moussa and Dunn with respect to claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 5 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

3. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicant is filing a petition (with fee) for one month of extension time herewith, making this response due on or before March 18, 2004.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
APPLICATION No.: 09/487,726

Attorney Docket No.: Q57604

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

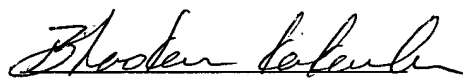
Respectfully submitted,

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